

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 and 15-20 remain pending in the application including independent claims 1, 10, 11, 15, 18, and 19. Claims 12-14 have been cancelled.

The revisions to the specification are not related to any objections or rejections set forth in the present official action. The specification has solely been revised to provide consistent terminology.

Claims 10, 11, and 18-20 are indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 10, 11, 18, and 19 have been so amended, thus claims 10, 11 and 18-20 should now be in condition for allowance.

The examiner's objection to the specification with regard to claim 14 is moot as claim 14 has been cancelled, however, applicant would refer examiner to paragraph [20], which explains the fore and aft suspension flanges.

Claims 1-8 and 12-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hufferd et al. (US 1841735). Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the first and second flanges have substantially flat engagement surfaces that are in direct abutting contact. Claim 15 has similarly been amended.

Hufferd does not disclose this feature. Hufferd discloses a box-like mount where upper and lower portions are spaced to form a cavity that receives a mounting block 14. Thus, Hufferd does not anticipate claims 1 and 15.

Claim 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hufferd alone. This rejection is moot in light of the amendments discussed above.

Applicant asserts that all claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully requests an indication of such. A check in the amount of \$600.00 is enclosed for the

additional independent claim fees. Applicant believes that no additional fees are necessary, however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1482 in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

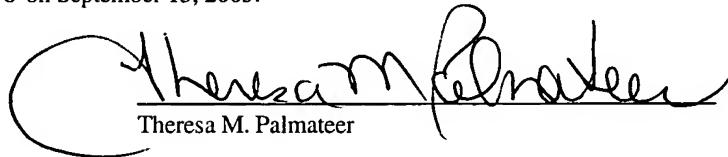
CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.

Kerry A. Labo, Reg. No. 42,771
400 W. Maple Road, Ste. 350
Birmingham, MI 48009
(248) 988-8360

Dated: September 13, 2005

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the enclosed Amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 13, 2005.


Theresa M. Palmateer

N:\Clients\MERITOR\Files 1501 to 2000\IP01990\PATENT\Amendment 9-14-05.doc